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Faculty Development minutes 09/15/2015

Faculty Development Committee

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Faculty Development Committee September 15, 2015

1:00pm

Hum Division Conference Room 112

Present: Tracy Otten (chair), Adele Lawler, Peter Dolan, Stephanie Ferrian, Kathryne Beauto and Windy Roberts.

Unable to attend: Maddy Lerner

I. FDC Charge, membership and Fall meetings

After introductions, Otten explained that the committee was in need of a P&A staff member. Since the dates for the meeting were adopted after looking into the current members' schedules, she hopes it would be possible for the P&A member, once selected by the membership committee, to attend the current set dates (although the day for the meeting in December should be corrected from Tuesday to Friday).

Otten went over the responsibilities of the FDC: The Faculty Development Committee works with faculty, administrators, and students in exploring ways to provide faculty with resources for improving the quality of instruction, research, and service. Some of the services we provide are planning and organizing the Fall Professional Development Day and make recommendations to the Dean regarding the Faculty Enrichment Program and Faculty Time Release Funding.

Last spring FDC met every week to organize the Fall Professional Development Day, one of our major responsibilities. Otten proposed to change the frequency of the meetings to bi-monthly meetings spread more consistently across both terms. There seems to be a general consensus that the campus would like more professional development opportunities and FDC is a natural starting point for initiating programming so we will be taking on additional projects this year.

II. Fall Professional Development Day

Lawler shared the results of the 2015 FPDD surveys. Sixty-seven people participated and twenty-nine responded to the survey. According to Lawler, the responses were mostly positive compared to last year. She shared copies of the results and feedback forms that the participants turned in after the event.

The committee discussed ways to improve the registration process and the survey for the FPDD. Dolan proposed the idea of using Google Classroom as a central place to gather all sorts of documents, survey, registration form, etc. Dolan said he could set it up. Otten mentioned the possibility of a workshop on How to use Google Classroom as a professional activity opportunity. Otten will follow up with Pam Gades to see where such a workshop would fit - FPDD or within her tech programming. We will chat more about the survey at our next meeting.

Otten mentioned that in the past the main topics for FPDD rotated year to year between teaching, research, and service. More recently FPDD has been some combination of the three. When faculty are asked teaching related concerns, including assessment, comes up regularly as a suggested programming topic. Comments about the use of the expertise of our own faculty to present workshops, activities, programs, etc., during the FPDD are very prevalent.

III. Center for Educational Innovation opportunities

Otten suggested we take a look at the website of the Center for Educational Innovation before we met today. This is a newer office on the TC campus that aims to offer development opportunities for all the campuses. She met with the Dean and Division Chairs on the 14th regarding potential programming opportunities through this Center for Educational Innovation.

It was suggested that the FDC could start to advertise other opportunities for professional development. We all looked at it and were very excited about the possibility of taking advantage of some of the programs and

workshops available through the center. Otten mentioned that the Dean offered the possibility of funds for bringing some of the presenters here and also the possibility of sending our own faculty there to take advantage of these opportunities to present on topics at a later point, perhaps alternating with TAFS.

IV. Spring Series of Workshops

The conversation revolved around the series of 7 presentations the director of the Center for Educational Innovation is doing for UMD over the course of the year. This series targets tenure line and term faculty in their first two years at UMM. We talked about organizing a version of this for UMM. This could be done in one of two ways: as a condensed half day version with reduced overall content or a restructured version including 3 to 4 sessions, each 2 hours or so and they could be spread across the spring semester. The committee favored seeing if it would be possible to do multiple sessions because more content can be covered and scheduling should be easier for participants. The sessions would be conducted by David Langley of the Center for Innovative Education (UMTC) so specific scheduling is contingent on his availability. Below is a list of the topics David is using for UMD and the groupings / timeline we would like to suggest for UMM:

Mid-January:

- Establishing and maintaining professional relationships with students
- Using feedback and self assessment productively

Mid-February:

- The centrality of student learning as the focus for designing your course
- Keys to effective instructional delivery

Mid-March / Early April:

- Creating networks to support teaching
- Cultivating a process for improvement
- Summary and open questions from attendees

If possible, we will see about offering a repeat session to work with a broader range of faculty schedules. Otten will inform the Dean of our discussion to initiate planning with CEI. We will take this up again next time and also continue to strategize effective ways to use this new resource. Please see the handouts Otten distributed during the meeting.

III. Fall Survey

The committee also talked about the Fall survey that will be sent out to look for input from the faculty and professional staff about what they would like to see happen during this year and at the Fall Professional Development Day in August.

Otten commented that there was a glitch in the survey last time and that should be avoided in the future. She asked that the committee meet again next Friday, October 2 at 8:00am in Humanities Division Conference Room 112.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00pm

Respectfully submitted by Windy Roberts